GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3044
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
IMPORT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) the quantity and value of cigarettes and other tobacco products imported during the last three years, country-wise; (

(b) the import duty on each of them with the bound limit, if any, and the reasons for less tariff rate than bound the limit; (

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding availability of duty free cigarettes and tobacco products in the internal market; (

(d) if so, the details thereof; and (

(e) the steps being taken to restrict the duty free tobacco products and cigarettes in the internal market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) As per statement attached.

(b) Tobacco products are freely importable. The present applicable basic custom duty on all these items is 35%. In addition, imports of cigarettes are subject to `goods of special importance` duty ranging from Rs.37/- per thousand to Rs.495/- per thousand, depending upon the type of cigarettes. Import of cigarettes are also subject to National calamity duty ranging from Rs.20/- per thousand to Rs.235/- per thousand, depending upon the type of cigarettes. Bound rate for all these items is 150%. Present duty structure is considered adequate for the present level of imports.

(c) Duty free import of cigarettes and tobacco products is not allowed for sale in domestic market. Limited quantities are, however, allowed for personal consumption under the Baggage Rules.

(d) & (e) Question does not arise.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3044 FOR ANSWE 10.8.2001, REGARDING IMPORT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

IMPORT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Quantity in Tons
Value in Rs. Crore

			1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001 (UPTO FEB.)	
EXIM CODE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	COUNTRIES	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE
24.02	CIGARS, CHEROOTS,	CUBA	1.4	0.57	0.6	0.29	0.5	0.52
CIGARILLOS &		HONGKONG	4.4	0.33	0.3	0.05	14.4	1.14
CIGARETTES, OF		SINGAPORE	41.2	2.34	25.7	1.48	0.9	0.09
TOBACCO OR OF		SWITZERLAND	1.0	0.04	2.7	0.29	3.6	0.42
TOBACCO	UK		37.0	2.63	58.8	2.47	7.6	0.43
SUBSTITUTE	USA		58.6	3.19	15.9	1.38	2.1	0.20
	OTHERS		17.3	0.51	0.7	0.04	2.5	0.16

TOTAL 160.9 9.61 104.7 6.00 31.6 2.96

24.03 OTHER MANUFACTURE GERMAN F REP. 1.8 0.07 0 0 1.2 0.01
TOBACCO & MANUFACTURED UK 0.4 0.03 12.3 0.23 0.5 0.02
TOBACCO SUBSTITUTE, OTHERS 9.0 0.10 15.7 0.14 6.9 0.04
`HOMOGENISED`
OR `RECONSTITUTED`
TOBACCO; TOBACCO
EXTRACTS & ESSENCES

TOTAL 11.2 0.20 28.0 0.37 8.6 0.07